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PRESS RELEASE

Date/Time of Release: Friday, January 09, 2004
Date/Time of Occurrence: Friday, January 09, 2004
Nature of Event: Firearm Safety Kits Now Available through Sheriff's Dept.
Location of Event: Placer County

Released by: Dena Erwin, Community Services Officer, (530) 889-6922

SHERIFF EDWARD N. BONNER RELEASES THE FOLLOWING:

The Placer County Sheriff's Department is providing 1,000 free firearm safety kits to local residents through a partnership with Project ChildSafe, the nationwide firearms safety education program. The safety kits, which include a gunlock, are available now at all sheriffs' locations.

Project ChildSafe, a program developed by the National Shooting Sports Foundation, will distribute millions of firearm safety kits throughout the country over the next year. The program is funded by a U.S. Department of Justice grant, with additional funding provided by the firearms industry.

"We encourage residents to pick up a Project ChildSafe safety kit to securely store firearms," said Sheriff Ed Bonner. "Our goal is to prevent a child or any other unauthorized person from accessing a firearm."

Each kit contains a safety curriculum and a cable-style lock. The lock fits on most types of handguns, rifles and shotguns.

By partnering with Project ChildSafe, the Placer County Sheriff's Department is participating in a growing national effort to promote firearms safety education to all gun owners. Kits will be distributed to all 50 states and the five U.S. territories.

"We are pleased to have the Placer County Sheriff's Department as a Project ChildSafe partner," said Dee Dee Dockins, spokesperson for the program. "Project ChildSafe is an important step forward in helping ensure that all firearm owners fully understand their responsibilities with respect to the safe handling and storage of firearms."

Safety kits are available at the sheriff's main office in Auburn and at all substations and services centers including Loomis, Colfax, Foresthill, Granite Bay and North Lake Tahoe. For more information, contact Deputy Steve Morrill at (530) 889-7800.

Copies of this press release are available on the Placer County Sheriff's Department website at <http://www.placer.ca.gov/sheriff>